

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake comprising:

culturing Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate containing a substance capable of controlling the cell membrane permeability of the hyphae as an active principle.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake comprising:

culturing Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate containing a substance capable of enhancing the hydrophilic property of the hyphae as an active principle.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake comprising:

culturing Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate containing a surfactant and/or a natural vegetable oil as an active principle.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake comprising:

culturing Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate containing a fatty acid ester as an active principle.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake, comprising:

inducing growth of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically homogenizing a colony of Matsutake hyphae and aseptically culturing the obtained hyphae in a liquid nutrient medium;
preparing an inoculum of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically replacing the liquid nutrient medium containing the growth-induced Matsutake hyphae with a liquid nutrient medium containing no carbon source; and
culturing aseptically the inoculum of the Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate containing a substance capable of controlling the cell membrane permeability of the hyphae as an active principle.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake, comprising:

inducing growth of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically homogenizing a colony of Matsutake hyphae and aseptically culturing the obtained hyphae in a liquid nutrient medium;
preparing an inoculum of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically replacing the liquid nutrient medium containing the growth-induced Matsutake hyphae with a liquid nutrient medium containing no carbon source; and culturing aseptically the inoculum of the Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate containing a substance capable of enhancing the hydrophilic property of the hyphae as an active principle.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake, comprising:

the step of inducing growth of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically homogenizing a colony of Matsutake hyphae to substantially separate the hypha cells from each other without destroying the cells and aseptically culturing the obtained hyphae in a liquid nutrient medium containing a carbon source;

the subsequent step of preparing an inoculum of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically replacing the liquid nutrient medium containing the growth-induced Matsutake hyphae with a liquid nutrient medium containing no carbon source after said growth inducing step; and the step of culturing aseptically the prepared inoculum of the Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate in which Matsutake hyphae can grow containing a carbon source and at least one active principle selected from the group consisting of a surfactant and/or a natural vegetable oil ~~as an active principle~~.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): A method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake, comprising:

inducing growth of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically homogenizing a colony of Matsutake hyphae and aseptically culturing the obtained hyphae in a liquid nutrient medium; preparing an inoculum of Matsutake hyphae by aseptically replacing the liquid nutrient medium containing the growth-induced Matsutake hyphae with a liquid nutrient medium containing no carbon source; and culturing aseptically the inoculum of the Matsutake hyphae in a culture substrate containing a fatty acid ester as an active principle.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 1, wherein a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of 0.2 to 10 wt% is used as the active principle.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 2, wherein a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of 0.2 to 10 wt% is used as the active principle.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 3, wherein a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of 0.2 to 10 wt% is used as the active principle.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 4, wherein a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of 0.2 to 10 wt% is used as the active principle.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 5, wherein a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of 0.2 to 10 wt% is used as the active principle.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 6, wherein a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of 0.2 to 10 wt% is used as the active principle.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 7, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of 0.2 to 10 wt% ~~is used as the active principle.~~

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 8, wherein a solution containing the active principle at the concentration of
0.2 to 10 wt% is used as the active principle.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 1, wherein a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 2, wherein a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 3, wherein a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 4, wherein a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 5, wherein a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 6, wherein a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 7, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 8, wherein a solution containing the active principle which is prepared using an organic solvent and distilled water is used as the active principle.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 1, wherein either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is used as the culture substrate.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 2, wherein either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is used as the culture substrate.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 3, wherein either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is used as the culture substrate.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 4, wherein either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is used as the culture substrate.

Claim 29 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 5, wherein either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is used as the culture substrate.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 6, wherein either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is used as the culture substrate.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 7, wherein the culture substrate is either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is ~~used as the culture substrate.~~

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 8, wherein either one of soil having a grain size of 3 mm or less and an artificial substrate having a grain size of 2 mm or less is used as the culture substrate.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 1, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 2, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of

a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.

Claim 35 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 3, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 4, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 5, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 6, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.

Claim 39 (Original): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 7, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of

a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): The method of forming an artificial Shiro of Matsutake according to claim 8, wherein the active principle is added to the culture substrate in a state of a solution containing the active principle, and weight ratio of the solution containing the active principle to the total weight is 15 to 30 wt%.